

PATENTS  
Attorney Docket No. STK-075 CON

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

Examiner : Ruixiang Li  
Group Art Unit : 1646  
Applicants : Hermann Oppermann, et al.  
Application No. : 10/816,768 Confirmation No. : 3980  
Filed : April 2, 2004  
For : MODIFIED TGF- $\beta$  SUPERFAMILY PROTEINS

New York, NY 10036  
November 9, 2009

Mail Stop After Final  
Hon. Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This responds to the September 8, 2009 Final Office Action in the above-identified application. Applicants are filing this response within the shortened statutory period, *i.e.*, on or before December 8, 2009. Thus, this reply is timely filed.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.